

MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO
GUAM

ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE

RANKING MEMBER, SUBCOMMITTEE ON
READINESS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
SEAPOWERS AND PROJECTION FORCES

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON INDIAN, INSULAR,
AND ALASKA NATIVE AFFAIRS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON WATER, POWER AND OCEANS



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

WASHINGTON, D.C. OFFICE:
2441 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-1188
FAX: (202) 226-0341

DISTRICT OFFICE:
120 FATHER DUENAS AVENUE
SUITE 107
HAGÁTÑA, GUAM 96910
(671) 477-4272
FAX: (671) 477-2587

<http://www.house.gov/bordallo>

January 30, 2017

The Honorable James Mattis
Secretary of Defense
Department of Defense
1010 Defense Pentagon Room 3E94
Washington, DC 20301

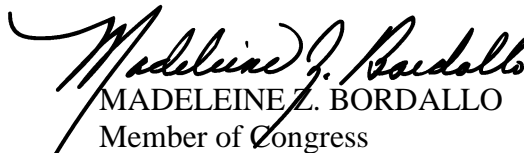
Dear Secretary Mattis,

I applaud your decision to make your first official international visit the Asia-Pacific region. Our allies and partners will benefit from your reassurance and a reiteration of our decades old commitments. We must continue our Rebalance to the region and the Department of Defense (DoD) will continue to play a leading role in that whole-of-government effort. Specifically, Japan and South Korea are critical partners in countering threats and maintaining stability in the region and we must continue to protect and promote these relationships.

Travel to the Asia-Pacific will also provide an opportunity to review our military equities in Guam and it is my hope that you will consider stopping to meet with local leaders and review our strategic posture. Of particular interest, as you know, is the 2011 2+2 Joint Statement, a political agreement that the United States and Japan reached which addressed the realignment of Marines from Okinawa. As a result, about 5,000 of those Marines will be relocated to Guam. This is a tremendous undertaking that will more adequately align our forces in the region, however it requires continued careful attention from DoD to ensure we build upon the progress made.

I hope that you will take the opportunity to visit Guam, and also to take steps to ensure that the Marine realignment stays on track. If you have any questions, please have your staff contact my Military Legislative Assistant, Jason McMahon, at jason.mcmahon@mail.house.gov, or at (202) 225-1188. Thank you for your time and consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,


MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO
Member of Congress